



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**DEPARTMENT OF
TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND ENERGY**

D.T.E. 02-8

January 24, 2002

NOTICE OF INVESTIGATION AND PUBLIC HEARING

Investigation by the Department of Telecommunications and Energy on its own motion, pursuant to G.L. c. 159, §§ 12 and 16, into the collocation security policies of Verizon New England Inc. d/b/a Verizon Massachusetts.

The Department of Telecommunications and Energy ("Department"), on its own motion, has opened an investigation into collocation security in Massachusetts. The purpose of this investigation is to review our prior findings with respect to access by personnel of other carriers to Verizon's central offices and other facilities, and to assess the security measures in place to protect those facilities. The Department intends to determine, through the presentation of evidence, which policies, if any, should be strengthened to safeguard telecommunications networks from tampering and thereby to ensure reliable telecommunications service to the citizens of Massachusetts.

This investigation will determine whether Verizon's security policies meet the statutory standard for "just, reasonable, safe, adequate and proper regulations and practices." G.L. c. 159, § 16. Specifically, this investigation will include, but not be limited to, an examination of the following issues: (1) the extent and nature of appropriate access by personnel of other carriers to Verizon's central offices and other facilities for accessing collocation sites; (2) whether cageless collocation arrangements remain an acceptable security risk; (3) the adequacy of security measures implemented in Verizon's central offices and other facilities, focusing on preventive, rather than "after-the-fact," measures; and (4) any other related security issues.

The Department will hold a public hearing to receive comments on central office security. The public hearing will be held **10:00 a.m. on Monday, February 25, 2002** at the Department's offices at One South Station, Boston, Massachusetts, 02110. The public hearing will be followed immediately by a procedural conference, at which time a schedule for this investigation will be established.

The Department invites all interested persons who are substantially and specifically affected by the issues under investigation to petition to intervene in this proceeding. Any person who desires to participate in the evidentiary phase of this proceeding must file a written

petition for leave to intervene or to participate in the proceeding with Mary L. Cottrell, Secretary, Department of Telecommunications and Energy, One South Station, Boston, Massachusetts 02110, not later than the close of business (5:00 p.m.) on **Monday, February 11, 2002**. A petition for leave to intervene must satisfy the timing and substantive requirements of 220 C.M.R. § 1.03. Receipt by the Department -- not mailing -- constitutes filing and determines whether a petition has been timely filed. A late-filed petition may be disallowed as untimely, unless good cause is shown for a waiver. To be allowed, a petition under 220 C.M.R. § 1.03(1) must satisfy the standing requirements of G.L. c. 30A, § 10.

All written pleadings or comments also must be submitted to the Department in electronic format by e-mail attachment to dte.efiling@state.ma.us (copy to Joan.Evans@state.ma.us). The text of the e-mail must specify: (1) an easily identifiable case caption; (2) the docket number; (3) the name of the person or company submitting the filing; and (4) a brief descriptive title of document (e.g., comments or petition to intervene). The electronic filing should also include the name, title, and phone number of a person to contact in the event of questions about the filing. Text responses should be written in either Word Perfect (naming the document with a ".wpd" suffix) or in Microsoft Word, (naming the document with a ".doc" suffix). Data or spreadsheet responses should be compatible with Microsoft Excel. Documents submitted in electronic format will be posted on the Department's Website, <http://www.state.ma.us/dpu/>.